

**In the Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method for inducing growth inhibition of or apoptosis in a population of cancer cells in which mdm2 is not overexpressed, comprising administering to the cells an agent comprising a peptide, less than 25 amino acids in length, having at least 70% amino acid sequence identity with a portion of human p53, and including the peptide motif FXaaXaaXaaW (SEQ ID NO: 4), where Xaa is any amino acid, wherein the agent has having the property of disrupting the binding of p53 and mdm2 or inhibiting the production of mdm2.
2. (Previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the p53 is activated for DNA specific binding and transcription.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the agent comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence that consists of, ~~or that is a variant of~~, a portion of human p53 which has the property of binding to mdm2.
- 4.- 27. (Canceled)